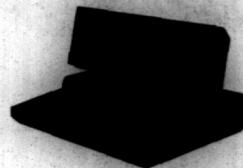




## EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



William H.  
Perkins Jr.

Editor

EDITOR  
William H. Perkins Jr.  
wperkins@mbcb.org

ASSOCIATE EDITOR  
Tony Martin  
tmartin@mbcb.org

LAYOUT/DESIGN  
Matt Broome  
mbroome@mbcb.org

ADVERTISING  
Dana Richardson  
drichardson@mbcb.org

CIRCULATION MANAGER  
Brenda Quattlebaum  
bquattlebaum@mbcb.org

EDITOR EMERITUS  
Don McGregor

Baptist Record Advisory Committee:  
Mack Amis, McComb  
James Beasley, Crystal Springs  
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Fax: (601) 292-3330  
E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org

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I'm actually glad the Lord hasn't given me a bunch of money," my friend said, half-jokingly, "because He knew it would drive me stark-raving mad." If current events lend proof to that observation, our society is hurtling toward the same illness.

Hardly a day goes by without news media reports of billion-dollar business frauds, widespread embezzlement, cheating, lying, stealing, and even murder in the name of financial crimes — all for the love of money. Has no one in America read the Bible warnings?

• "Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income. This too is meaningless." —Ecclesiastes 5:10 (NIV).

• "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money." —the words of Jesus Himself in Matthew 6:24 (NIV).

• "For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs." —1 Timothy 6:10 (NIV)

• "Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.' — Hebrews 13:5 (NIV).

The obsession to acquire more and more wealth has apparently existed at least since Bible times, because the inspired writers were led to describe the love of money with such words and phrases as "never enough," "hate," "despise," "root of all kinds of evil," and "pierced... with many griefs." We are also admonished to be content with the amount of money we do have.

Like so many other Bible truths we have discarded in order to slake our own worldly appetites, we have come to the point of complete disregard for God's warnings about the destructiveness of money and the abuse of wealth.

The American entertainment media are constantly bombarding us with glimpses into the lifestyles of the rich and famous. We stare agog at our television screens as actresses appear at awards shows in \$500,000 gowns and million-dollar, diamond-encrusted footware. We like to tickle our ears with stories of high-flying business tycoons trading in their old trophy wives for newer models.

We fantasize about hitting the Powerball or striking it rich at the roulette table or hearing the Prize Patrol knock on our door. We see ourselves bedecked in fabulous jewelry and driving overpriced luxury cars. We want to live in outsized houses that really amount to a waste of money and natural resources.

Sure, we need some sort of income to live. True enough, some people seem "blessed" with the ability to make money without breaking a sweat. However, if money is our only "scoreboard of life," as a successful businessman once put it, we will never be whole as individuals or as a society.

Wealth has its place. It is one of God's creations. The accumulation and expenditure of wealth can be both noble and God-serving when used in the intended manner. It's just that we humans have managed to twist it and abuse it to the point it is almost unrecognizable to its original intent — but haven't we done just about everything that way?

"THOSE THINGS THAT WERE GAIN TO ME IS WHAT GOT ME HERE!"



We would do well to heed the words of the Apostle Paul found in Philippians 4:12-13 (NIV), "I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength."

The first part — being content — we can will ourselves to do. The second part — to have faith — is going to take some commitment. Are we up to it?

### GUEST OPINION:



#### 'Loose lips' mentality not the Gospel way

By Matt Miller  
Southwestern Seminary

isn't growing. It seems that boldness is a rare quality.

It is that lack of boldness that sickens my very core. In Southeast Asia, I saw things that made me weep, things that made me hurt, and things that made me nauseous.

Greater than the pits of rotting bodies in the tropical sun, more saddening than the thousands of miles of destroyed coastline, and even more painful than the faces of orphans are the faces of the thousands who did survive only to delay their entry into hell for another day; they are those who have never heard the Gospel and those who are still not hearing the Gospel more than a month after this

tragedy. How can they be saved if they do not hear?

Yes, the area I was in is a Muslim culture. Yes, Christianity is frowned upon and yes, at times believers are persecuted, but the "loose lips sink ships" mentality doesn't sit well with me or my old navy captain of a grandfather.

The Kingdom of Heaven will never increase without deliberately, verbally, and boldly sharing the Gospel.

Being in a place "sharing the love of Christ" just by handing out water, rice, or strawberry yogurt is not enough to make an eternal difference. Nowhere in Scripture is simply being there enough. Even in instances where Christ was just meeting

a need, he never missed a chance to proclaim his deity. Simply saying, "Jesus loves you," is not enough.

Never would I counsel recklessness, bad manners, or being provocative but if the writer who counseled against "loose lips" is in the majority, and I fear he is, then we are far removed from the dangers stated above. We are more likely to be failing our Lord when He commanded us to "make disciples of all nations."

I understand the risk associated in sharing in a hostile land. I understand security and cultural sensitivity. I've been there. I also understand dying and going to hell. I've been on that path, too.

However, I'm grateful someone took the risk and shared the greatest thing they could with me: the life-changing gospel of Jesus Christ. I'm ever grateful that someone risked sinking their ship to save my drowning soul. Loose lips saved my ship. Hell is full of seaworthy vessels.

Miller is director of photography at Southwestern Seminary.

# Review: 'Winn-Dixie' winner for families

By Phil Boatwright  
Baptist Press

Who isn't a sucker for a good dog-and-his/her-sidekick story? Because of Winn-Dixie, which opened in theaters on February 18, is the latest winner in this tried-and-true genre.

Even USA Today topped its review with the headline, "'Winn-Dixie' is a winner," describing the film as "a sweet, family-friendly retelling of a touching and funny Newbery Award-winning children's book."

USA Today described the film as "close enough to the original work to please most fans, and it's sufficiently entertaining for those unfamiliar with Kate DiCamillo's story."

The storyline of Because of Winn-Dixie centers around a lonely 10-year-old girl, abandoned by her alcoholic mother and ignored by her grieving minister

father, who prays for a friend. Soon after, an energetic stray pooch scampers his way into her heart while she shops for macaroni and cheese at the local Winn-Dixie. As the two bond, she finds that they are having a positive effect on the friendless and disenfranchised in her small rural community.



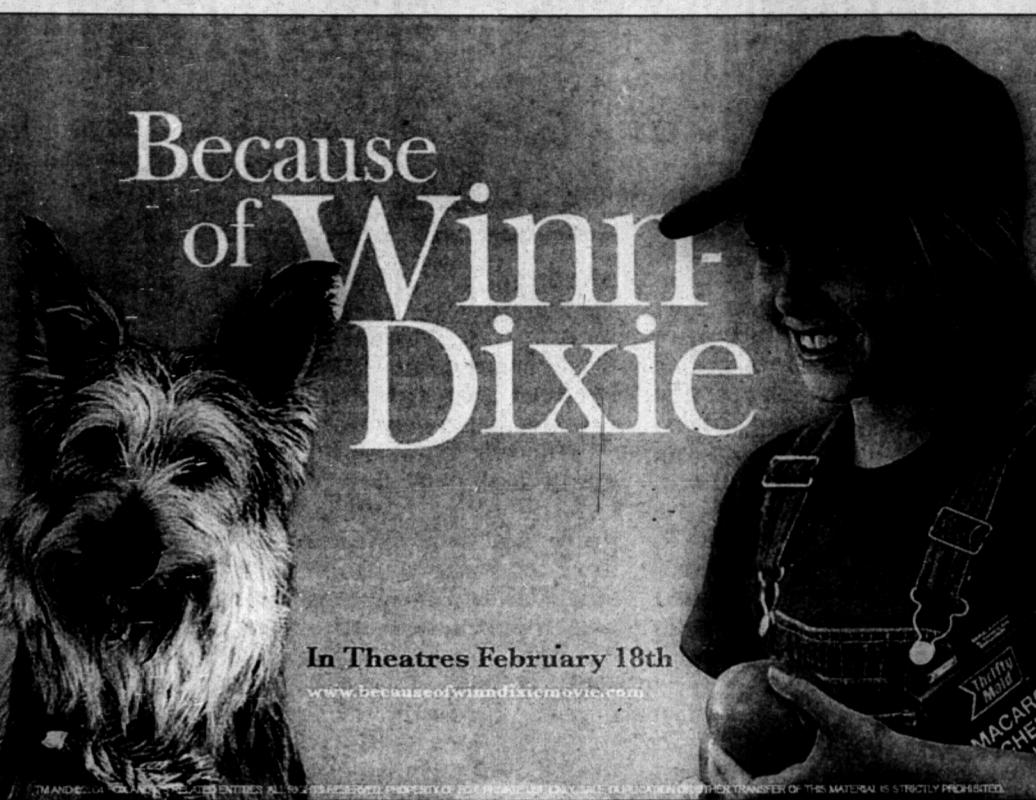
as well as her own troubled relationship with her father.

The film is the latest venture from Walden Media, a relatively unknown film company that has produced some significant fare — such as *Holes*, *Around the World in 80 Days*, and *I Am David*.

Walden Media's aim in those and other films is to entertain family audiences, while also helping to encourage kids to embrace the world of literature. What's more, its co-founder is a believer.

Micheal Flaherty (I didn't have the nerve to ask him why he inverts the ae in his given first name), along with one-time college friend Cary Granat (I kid you not), formed Walden Media five years ago with the purpose of making great films from celebrated literature.

"My partner, Cary Granat, had once been the president of Dimension Films, making mostly R-rated horror movies but he had a young daughter and he wanted to make something that she could enjoy, that he could bring his whole family to.



THE  
SECOND  
FRONT PAGE

THE BAPTIST  
*Record*

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## Bill increases fines

WASHINGTON (BP) — The U.S. House of Representatives voted overruling a veto on February 16 to increase dramatically the fines for indecency on radio and television broadcasts, in a 389-38 vote on the Broadcast Decency Enforcement Act. If it becomes law, the measure

- Increases fines from \$32,500 to \$500,000 per violation to stations.
- Up the maximum fine for a third violation by a performer or network from \$100,000 to \$500,000.
- Requires a license revocation hearing for a station after a third violation.
- Mandates the Federal Communications Commission act on indecency complaints within 90 days.

Supporters of the bill believe increasing the fines will work to reduce indecent programming considered obscene by FCC Chairman Michael Powell. The opposition instead claims the bill would be an act of government censorship. Defenders of the measure, however, said it provides the muscle needed hopefully to cause federal licensees to refrain from broadcasting, as the bill describes it, "obscene, indecent, or profane material." U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback (R-Kansas), is sponsoring a Senate companion bill that contains some differences. His proposal would increase the maximum fine to \$325,000 for stations. Neither bill would directly affect cable or satellite programming. The FCC is able to regulate only broadcast radio and television. On TV, that includes such networks as ABC, CBS, NBC, and FOX. Last year, both the House and Senate overwhelmingly approved bills increasing indecency fines, but differences could not be worked out, causing them to die when Congress adjourned. Pro-family organizations have long criticized the sexual content, plus obscene and profane language, on prime-time television. The Super Bowl's controversial halftime show last year, however, pushed the issue into the national spotlight and motivated Congress to act. FCC Chairman Michael Powell, whose actions sometimes disappointed pro-family advocates, recently announced his resignation from the panel. Opponents of broadcast indecency are urging President Bush to name someone who will consistently enforce the rules as his replacement.

"I was doing things in the world of education and was trying to find ways to make learning more interesting to kids," Flaherty continued. "Together we formed a company that would produce good stories that didn't shy away from spiritual truths.

"We constructed a business plan to make films based on great historical subjects (The Question of God), IMAX films that would make science come alive (Aliens of the Deep) and feature films based on books kids were reading in school (The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe)," Flaherty said.

"We got laughed at by every venture capital office from New York to San Francisco and then finally we met Phil Anschutz, who understood what we were doing right away and did a lot to help develop our vision."

The direction of Walden Media is not taken lightly by the company's founders. "We want to be the next great trusted brand for families, particularly for teachers, libraries and parents," Flaherty said, "and we have to deliver on our mission to use the film and the book to make learning more exciting for kids."

Asked why he wanted to add to a movie genre already stuffed with classics like *Lassie Come Home*, *Ladd A Dog*, and *My*

Dog Skip, Flaherty said there is always room for one more dog-lovers' movie: "I love the story because I'm a dog lover and I think it has a great message about how we are all broken and we should share each other's burden and each other's joy."

As for the studio's *I Am David*, which won festival awards and raves from reviewers but was missed by most filmgoers, Flaherty said it's coming out on DVD this spring. (Go to [walden.com](http://walden.com) website for further details.)

The C.S. Lewis allegory *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* will be released in December. "The last two versions didn't really measure up to the power of the story," Flaherty said. "We didn't cut any corners. I think we succeeded in getting the best directing, writing, and special effects talents possible."

Boatwright is a film critic and editor of *The Movie Reporter*, on the Web at [www.moviereporter.com](http://www.moviereporter.com).

## Looking back

10 years ago

Baptisms related to foreign mission work worldwide total 302,132 in 1994 — the first time annual baptisms have topped 300,000, according to Jerry Rankin, president of the Foreign Mission Board.

20 years ago

Bobby Kilpatrick, head basketball coach at Memphis State University, tells members of Calvary Church, Tupelo, that although the university's regents prohibit him from sharing his faith with his players, his lifestyle can influence the young men.

50 years ago

\$10,000 of this year's Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions is allocated to be used toward the construction of the proposed Indian center to be located in Mississippi, according to Edwina Robinson, state WMU secretary.

## GREETERS

### Bibliocipher

By Charles Marx, 1932 - 2004  
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SGK ITFRF SYF ITFW  
NTQET SYF RANG AG  
MAAK MYADGK; RDET SR  
TFSY ITF NAYK, SGK YFE-  
FQBF QI, SGK UYQGM  
XAYIT XYDQI, RAJF ITQYI-  
WXAPK, RAJF RQLIW, SGK  
RAJF SG TDGKYFK.

JSYV XADY: INFQIW

Clue: J = M

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Luke Six:Forty-Four.

History will record that Sam Walton was a merchandising genius. Starting out with little or nothing, he took an idea and a whole lot of work and built the Wal-Mart empire. At the time of his pinnacle of success he was the richest man in America and possibly the world. I suppose most people looking at the success of Wal-Mart think that what he did was mainly buy huge volumes so that the price would be reduced and he would be able to pass on the savings to everyone else. That is in part true, but that is not what Sam Walton was all about. Actually, he was involved in the process of reaching people. To Sam Walton how you got people in the store, how you treated them and helped them while they were shopping, was vitally important.

One of the innovative things that Wal-Mart put in place was a "Greeter" whose sole mission was to welcome you to the store and from the very beginning make you feel good about being there. You may be there to pick up a specific item like a tooth brush or a power tool or you may just be meandering through the store looking at the thousands of items available. Either way, the better you feel about being there the more likely it is that you will be a productive and happy customer. While Wal-Mart, a monstrosity of an operation, gets a fair amount of criticism it must be recognized that the largest merchandising outlet in the world thinks it is



# Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer  
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

important to have a "Greeter" at the door to give a warm welcome and make sure that those who come to shop are brought into a positive, helpful, and happy environment.

The church could learn a great deal from Sam Walton. On the other hand in years gone by, Sam Walton may have learned from some folks' spiritual and biblical teaching and the practical application of those teachings. The great Sunday School leader and church growth expert of decades ago, Arthur Flake, used to deal with this aspect of church and Sunday School in his conferences. Before he got around to dealing with the principles of teaching and before he started encouraging and motivating people to go out, he recognized that there was something essential that must be in the experience or it would be empty and meaningless. This former businessman recognized that if the atmosphere is not right regardless of the product or the importance of the experience, all would be lost.

It is a proven fact that people will not continue to shop at a place where they are not

welcomed and they are mistreated. At times the mistreatment is simply being ignored. Now, the important thing is for us to express our welcome and friendliness before the "welcome" moment in the service. Occasionally, I will be at a church where I am completely unknown by anyone there, and I am amazed at how many people will not even speak as I walk from the parking lot down the sidewalk into the building. I have had people go out of their way not to speak and then in the service when everybody is suppose to greet, welcome, and hug they will track me down. It is far more effective to be congenial when it is not expected than it is to do so when it appears you are forced to be.

I am certainly aware that the Bible teaches, "A man who has friends must show himself friendly," and so I make a concerted effort to be as friendly as I know how to be in order to give people an opportunity to befriend me in return. Still I have found dozens of people who will not even speak and many who at best will simply nod. I want to think that many of them are actually like me.

They are just visiting and they do not know how to respond to folks around them. We can do better! We ought to do better and hopefully, by the grace of God we will do better.

Today make a self-appointment in your church or Sunday School, and become the "Go out of the way, put a smile on your face greeter" to everybody who comes remotely close to where you are. One person like that, one person like you can make a huge difference in a room or on your way into the church. You may say, "Well, that is just not my personality." Ask God to give you a new personality or at least to upgrade the one you have so that you will be a blessing to someone beyond just your own skin. Have you ever seen those vests that folks who work in Wal-Mart wear? On the back it says, "May I help you?" Have you ever walked up to one of them and said, "Yes, you certainly may. I need to find some item or another." When you tell them you need help the offer on their back is not always representative of their attitude. Maybe that helps us to understand how people may feel when they come to the loving, warm atmosphere of the church and find that it is not that way at certain times. I pray that the Lord will transform all of us into "Greeters," who will welcome people not only to church or to Sunday School but also into His eternal family.

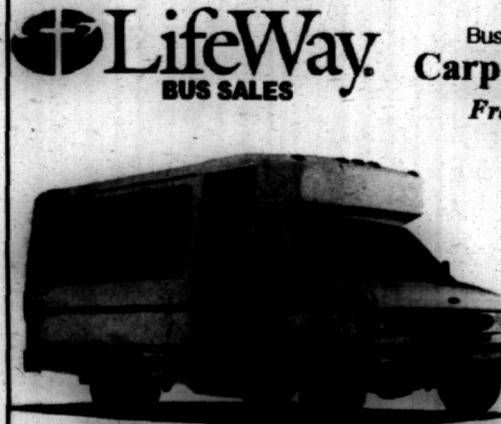
The author may be contacted at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. E-mail: [jfutral@mbcb.org](mailto:jfutral@mbcb.org).

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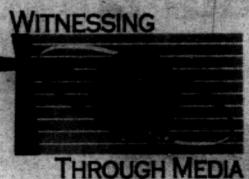
What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

# HOUSE TOPS

Matthew 10:27 NAS

February 24, 2005

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.



## MAY 6 - 7, 2005 PARK PLACE BAPTIST CHURCH, PEARL WTM WORKSHOPS

- **"Nuts and Bolts" of Camera Operation – Led by Don Warren and David Bunger**  
*Participants will walk through the basic camera operations such as framing, functions and camera directions.*
- **Getting Started on the Web – Led by J.C. Howell**  
*Internet beginners can see what you need to know about getting on line and publishing a church Web page.*
- **How Did They Do That?**  
*(1 hour session for everyone) Examples will be shown. Share your samples ... bring on VHS format.*
- **Creative Production – Led by Don Warren and David Bunger**  
*Creating spots, outreach videos, devotional thoughts, VBS promotion, budget presentations and others for the local church.*
- **Sound Advice Basic – Led by Trooper Hales**  
*Participants will receive audio tips and production techniques for the sound operator (house and broadcast).*
- **Sound Advice Advanced – Led by Trooper Hales**  
*This question and answer format workshop will go a step further in helping both broadcast and house audio operators with practical help.*
- **Advanced Web Site Design – Led by J.C. Howell**  
*Participants who have a basic knowledge of Web site design and want to take your church Web page to the next level.*
- **Non-Linear Editing for Weekly Church Broadcast – Led by Lynn Bullock**  
*If you are still using traditional tape based editing to edit your weekly worship service, this session will demonstrate an efficient solution for using today's low cost non-linear systems to simplify the process.*
- **Projection Systems Forum – Led by Ian Richardson**  
*If you are interested in, familiar with, just bought or looking for ways to use your video projection system, this question and answer format workshop is for you.*

Reservation Deadline is April 15, 2005 • Full refunds prior to April 15, 2005. No refund after that date. FOR MORE INFORMATION or REGISTRATION, contact Judy Chen, Communication Services, 601-292-3378 or 1-800-748-1651

## SENIOR ADULT SPRING RALLIES

- **TUESDAY, MARCH 8**  
FBC, Long Beach  
Speaker: Frank Gunn  
Contact Betty – 228-864-2584
- **THURSDAY, MARCH 10**  
Fairview BC, Columbus  
Speaker: Charles Lowry  
Contact Tommy – 662-328-2924

For more info, contact Glenn Shows: Phone, 601-292-3373 or 1-800-748-1651 or E-mail, [gshows@mbcb.org](mailto:gshows@mbcb.org).

### • TUESDAY, MARCH 15

FBC, Columbia  
Speaker: Frank Pollard  
Contact Archie – 601-736-2254

### • MONDAY, MARCH 28

West Jackson Street BC, Tupelo  
Contact Jim – 662-256-8778

### • TUESDAY, APRIL 5

Poplar Springs, Meridian  
Speaker: Henry Lyons, Alabama  
Contact Buddy – 601-681-8668

### • TUESDAY, APRIL 12

Emmanuel BC, Grenada  
Contact Barry – 662-226-5316

### • THURSDAY, APRIL 14

FBC, McComb  
Contact Talmadge – 601-833-8111  
Speaker: Tommy King, William Carey

## YOUNG MUSICIANS CAMP

### Gulfshore

JUNE 24-28

Guest Director: Ruth Lewis

Music Assistant  
North Phoenix Baptist Church, Phoenix, Arizona

Both Gulfshore and Blue Mountain camps are for boys and girls who have finished the 4-6 grades by June 1, 2005. They do not have to be members of a choir. Most children love music and like to sing. They will learn the music at camp and present a program the last evening. Parents and guests are invited.

Cost is \$155

Register with Gulfshore Baptist Assembly: 228-452-7261



## YOUNG MUSICIANS CAMP

### Blue Mountain

JULY 25-29

Guest Director: Wayne Causey

Minister of Music  
Forest Hills Baptist Church, Nashville



Each day both camps include two worship services, two rehearsals, two classes (one music activity and one spiritual) and afternoon electives such as crafts, outdoor splash games, handbells, art, swimming, drama and many more. There is also a fun feature each night that faculty and children can participate in.

Cost is \$112

Contact the Church Music Dept. for registration forms: 601-292-2271 or 1-800-748-1651





## Schedule

8:30 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. Festival Begins

### REGISTRATION FORM - Deadline April 22 2005 Senior Adult Choir Festival

Church \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Choir Name \_\_\_\_\_ Choir Director \_\_\_\_\_

No. Members Attending \_\_\_\_\_ x \$1 = \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

#### OUR CHOIR WILL SING THE FOLLOWING SELECTIONS FOR ADJUDICATION

1. Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Publisher \_\_\_\_\_ Composer \_\_\_\_\_

2. Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Publisher \_\_\_\_\_ Composer \_\_\_\_\_

Our Favorite Hymn is \_\_\_\_\_  Our choir will not sing for adjudication

There is a registration fee of \$1 per person. In order to complete registration, a check for the registration fee should be sent with the registration form to:

Senior Adult Choir Festival  
Church Music Department  
P.O. Box 530  
Jackson, MS 39205

**Saturday**

**March 12**

**Parkway BC, Clinton**



### Clinician

**Sherrie Upshaw**

Organist/Music Associate  
First Baptist Church  
Shreveport, La.

For more information contact the  
Church Music Department  
601-292-3267 or 1-800-748-1651

## IN HIS PRESENCE

### First Annual Hispanic Women's Retreat Primer Retiro Anual de Mujeres Hispanas

"In Your presence is fullness of joy..." Psalm 16:11  
"En tu presencia hay plenitud de gozo..." Salmo 16:11

**March 18-19, 2005**

**18-19 de Marzo de 2005**

**Central Hills Baptist Retreat  
Kosciusko, Miss.**

*Bible study, testimonies, music, prayer, fellowship  
Estudio Bíblico, testimonios, alabanzas, grupos de  
oración, compañerismo*

Cost: \$15 per person  
Costo: \$15 por persona

Child Care Provided  
Habrá cuidado de niños

Registration begins at 2:00 p.m. Friday, March 18.

Registración empieza a las 2:00 p.m. el Viernes 18 de Marzo  
Deadline to register March 13 Último plazo para registrarse 13 de Marzo

### REGISTRATION FORM FORMULARIO DE REGISTRACIÓN

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Persona Encargada: \_\_\_\_\_ Teléfono: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Dirección: \_\_\_\_\_ Ciudad: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Estado: \_\_\_\_\_ Código: \_\_\_\_\_ Correo electrónico: \_\_\_\_\_

On a separate sheet: Names of women attending with you: \_\_\_\_\_  
En un papel aparte: Nombres de las mujeres que asisten con usted: \_\_\_\_\_

Names and ages of children attending: \_\_\_\_\_  
Nombres y edades de los niños que asisten: \_\_\_\_\_

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Para más información  
comuníquese con:  
Mrs. Damaris Medina  
Hna. Damaris Medina  
601-267-5393  
jmedina@netdoor.com

**MAIL TO: ENVÍE A:**  
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P.O. Box 698, Kosciusko, MS 39090-0698

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Deadline to register March 13  
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## STATE MINISTRY ASSISTANTS CONFERENCE

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Preregistration with the fee in advance is necessary. Contact Kay McDonnell for more information: 601-292-3305, 1-800-748-1651 or E-mail [kmcconnell@mbcb.org](mailto:kmcconnell@mbcb.org).

## *Church Facilities & Furnishings Workshop*

**March 22, 2005  
8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

**Broadmoor Baptist Church  
1531 Highland Colony Parkway  
Madison, Mississippi**

For more info call the Pastor/Leadership Development Dept. at 601-292-3305 or 1-800-748-1651

## GULFSHORE SEEKING SUMMER EMPLOYEES

Gulfshore Baptist Assembly is accepting applications for employment for the 2005 summer staff, according to Frank Simmons, Assembly Manager.

College age applicants who are interested are encouraged to consider this avenue of ministry and service. The assembly begins its summer program May 7, 2005, and continues until August 10, 2005. The Gulfshore schedule features Senior Adult, Single, Youth, Music, Family and Adult Leadership Conferences. It is hoped that 2005 attendance will be the largest ever for Gulfshore.

Available positions include food services, Red Cross trained lifeguards, housekeeping, registration and office, first aid, and grounds and maintenance.

The assembly provides an interesting program of activities for the staff; and they have the opportunity for service as well as personal spiritual growth and development. It provides a wonderful opportunity to meet people from various places in Mississippi and to develop meaningful and personal friendships with these people.

Interested college age students are encouraged to meet with Simmons February 23 through March 8 on various college campuses across Mississippi, where he will be interviewing prospective employees. The recruiting schedule is as follows:

Monday	(Feb. 28)	Itawamba Comm. College BSU Blue Mountain BSU Center	10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday	(Mar. 1)	Northwest MS Comm. College BSU Ctr. Delta State University	11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday	(Mar. 2)	Mississippi State University	11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Thursday	(Mar. 3)	Northeast MS Community College BSU Ole Miss BSU Center	10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. 3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Monday	(Mar. 7)	Pearl River Community College BSU Jones Junior College BSU Center	10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. 2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday	(Mar. 8)	Hinds Comm. College BSU Center Co-Lin College BSU Center	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday	(Mar. 9)	Meridian Community College BSU East Central Community College BSU	11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Thursday	(Mar. 10)	WM Carey College BSU University of Southern MS BSU Center	10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Monday	(Mar. 14)	Mississippi College, BSU Center	11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

For additional information about an interview, contact Frank Simmons at Gulfshore, 228-452-7261 or e-mail [fsimmons@mbcb.org](mailto:fsimmons@mbcb.org) or contact the BSU director on the college campus in your respective area of the state.

For a staff application and other information write to Summer Employment, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, 100 First St., Pass Christian, MS 39571-3299 or visit the Web site [www.mbc.org](http://www.mbc.org).

## Pray this day for...

Prayer Ministry Office • P.O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530 • Phone 601-292-3304 • Mississippi PrayerLine 1-800-787-7729 (PRAY)

*"A man's influence in the world can be gauged not by his eloquence, his zeal, his orthodoxy, or his energy, but by his prayers."*

### The Kneeling Christian by an Unknown Christian

Pray for the series of church-planting clinics that missionary Ron Rogers began last month in the interior of the state of São Paulo, near São Paulo city metropolitan area. Ask God to use participants to begin churches not only in the cities where they live, but also in the many communities that have no Baptist work.

Continue to pray for believers in Puerto Williams, Chile, as they reach out to those who made decisions during the recent evangelistic Vacation Bible School and Bible studies directed by a volunteer team from Alabama.

For: (1) North American Missions Emphasis 6th-13th (WMU Emphasis); (2) Pray that the Lord will grant wisdom to the church starters who work among the Quichua of Ecuador. Pray that the Lord will give them strength to carry out their tasks.

Please lift up university students of Indonesia whose hometowns were hit tragically by the tsunami. A number of them have yet to return for the new semester. Word from the region hardest hit is that they were busy cleaning out a church and were able to have their first service two weeks after the devastation. Lift up these believers as they cling to their hope in Christ.

For: Michael D. Flannery, Buffalo, N.Y., is a church planter in New York, Elliott Sneed who is starting a new church in South Lancaster, N.Y., for a church planting missionary on staff at the Frontier Association, and for church planters in Springville and Batavia, N.Y.

New missionaries Bryan and Christy Thompson write: "Please pray for wisdom as we begin our ministry here in Montevideo, Uruguay. The groups are mostly agnostic. Even with downturn in the economy, they have a disinterest in any organized religion. Pray for us and fellow missionaries Charles and Karen Clark as we seek to share the Good News here."

For: (1) AMD Program Interpretation Meeting, Hilton Hotel, Jackson, 10:30 a.m., 3rd-noon, 4th (MS); (2) Metro Assoc. Fair and Banquet, Broadmoor BC, 3:00 and 5:30 p.m.; (3) Please pray for President Luiz Inacio "Lula" Da Silva of Brazil (eastern South America).

For: (1) State Youth Music Festival, Metairie Heights BC, Pearl, 6:30 a.m., 4th-1 p.m., 5th (CM); (2) Mississippi Adventurers Convention, Mississippi College, Clinton, 4th-6th (WMU); (3) Please pray today for President Festus Mogae of Botswana (southern Africa).

For: (1) State Keyboard Festival, Woodland Hills BC, Jackson, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. (CM); (2) AGC workers Jim and Shirley (L) and for your continued prayers that God would continue to lead for Bible studies in a new apartment complex called Las Tones de San Borja, Peru.

For: (1) Christian Education Clinic FBC, Jackson (D&FM); (2) Pray for the on-going church-planter trainings and mentor groups in the local congregations, Northwest Mexico City. Pray that they will be sources of encouragement, motivation and just-in-time training, providing great support groups to produce more and more laborers for the harvest.

## ANNUAL MISSIONS CELEBRATION 2005

# "MISSISSIPPI CHRIST FOLLOWERS"

### FRIDAY, APRIL 8

- 8 a.m.-noon Ministry Projects\*
- 3:30-4:30 p.m. Prayer & Share Celebration
- 5-6:15 Missions Banquet
- 6:30 Worship Celebration & Acts 1:8 Commissioning Service
- Featuring: Dramatist: Laurita Miller

### SATURDAY, APRIL 9

- 7:30 a.m. Former Executive Board Breakfast
- 8:45-10 Conferences
- 10:15 Worship Celebration & Business Session
- Featuring: Mississippi Choctaw Women's Choir
- 1:00 p.m. Adjourn

For information on any of the items in this ad, contact the WMU at 601-292-3319 or 1-800-748-1651.



### AMC 2005 Ministry Projects

**One Person Giving One Day = One Changed Life**  
*PrayerWalking, Ministry to the Military, New Church Starts, Acts of Kindness Ministry, Minor Repairs/Painting, Community Outreach*

During AMC 2005, you will have the opportunity to participate in ministry projects all across the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Ministry Projects will be planned for Friday, April 8, from 8:00 a.m.-noon. There is no cost, but registration is required.

### GOLF TOURNAMENT

THURSDAY, APRIL 7

Registration 12-1 p.m.

Tee Time 1 p.m.

Dogwood Hills Golf Course

Cost: \$30, includes cart and green fee  
 Proceeds will support the Gulf Coast Baptist Association Mobile Home Ministry



**BUS TOUR** — Ride the WMU bus to and from the Mission Celebration! It will depart from Garaywa, make a stop in Hattiesburg to pick up folks, and on to the conference.

## JUST FOR THE RECORD

Bonita Wilson, an International Mission Board missionary to the Pacific Rim, spoke with several potential missions volunteers at First Church, Richland, Jan. 27. The Pacific Rim includes 11 regions, including Japan, Korea, and Australia. Wilson briefed the group on tsunami recovery efforts in the region and shared opportunities for service. For more information, contact Ken Rhodes, director, Missions Mobilization Dept., Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, at (601) 292-3398, or toll-free outside Jackson at (800) 748-1651, ext. 239. E-mail [krhodes@mbcb.org](mailto:krhodes@mbcb.org).

On January 30, Randy Turner, pastor of First Church, Laurel, and Xavier Joshua signed a Covenant Agreement that First Church, Laurel, will be the sponsoring church for the First Metropolitan Mission, an African-American Southern Baptist work with Joshua as the Mission's pastor.

Jim Phillips, pastor of North Greenwood Church was guest speaker for the 13th annual wild game banquet at First



Bonita Wilson, IMB

Church, Laurel, on Feb. 8. Phillips is also a professional bass fisherman and very active in Fishers of Men Ministries. Visit his web site at [www.fishing-world.com/Pro-JimPhillips](http://www.fishing-world.com/Pro-JimPhillips).

Jack Hollingsworth was recently licensed to preach the gospel at Utica Church, Utica. He is currently serving as interim

music minister at Calvary Church, Vicksburg. Shown are Pastor Ben James and Jack Hollingsworth.

The Clarke-Venable Church, Awana Sparks' (grade K-2) goal for Lottie Moon was \$100. The group raised \$348. Leaders had pledged to match the total amount raised, which has brought the contribution to approximately \$700.

Ecru Church, recently honored Louise Mounce for her many years of service on January 30. She was presented with an engraved silver tray, a love offering and a meal was enjoyed in her honor. Shown below with Mounce is her pastor Barry Littlefield.

East End Church, Columbus, presently meeting at Heritage Academy, will have a ground breaking service on Feb. 27 at noon located at the new campus site on Hwy 50 in north Columbus.

Mountain Creek Church, Florence, recently celebrated a groundbreaking for their new family life center. The new building will add 6,400 sq. ft. of education and fellowship space.

First Church, Clinton, cordially invites you to meet their



Mounce and Littlefield, Ecru

### Gift Annuities

A charitable gift annuity is a contract in which you exchange a gift of cash or stocks for a guaranteed fixed income each year for life. This is an extraordinary way to make a gift, increase your income AND reduce your tax bill. Giving a gift annuity offers you several advantages. You receive income for life with payout rates for one or two people. A large part of your transfer is a deductible charitable gift. Tax-free income is another bonus of the gift annuity.

Part of your annual payments are tax-free. You minimize your capital gains taxes when you give a gift annuity. You will know that you are making a gift of lasting impact to further God's work.

In addition, you are able to choose how frequently payments will be made. You can select one person or two-person annuities and make your gift with either cash or stocks. Cash gifts allow the most tax-free income while gifts of securities (stocks) allow you to reduce capital gains taxes.

At the Mississippi Baptist Foundation, we provide information as well as church seminars on a wide range of programs and financial services. Call us at (601) 292-3210.



new pastor, John Compton and his wife Teresa. A reception will be held in their honor on February 27, 2-4 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the church.

Camp Creek Church, Guntown, will host a lay renewal weekend March 4-6. For more information, call (662) 869-5474.



Awana Sparks (Grade K-2), Clark-Venable Church



James and Hollingsworth



Jim Phillips and Randy Turner



Groundbreaking Ceremony, Mtn Creek Church, Florence



the meaning of Christmas, using drama, prayerwalking, and caroling.

**Blue Mountain College (BMC)** is holding its fourth annual financial aid luncheon on March 12 at the college. The luncheon will be held in the cafeteria at 11:30 a.m. and will graduate students who have graduated in Blue Mountain College.

Students do not have to be attending BMC to benefit from this free service. For more information, call (662) 685-4771, ext. 141.

Stan Buckley, pastor, First Church, Jackson, and an attorney, presented a case for the validity of Christianity at the Feb. 17 meeting of the Mississippi College School of Law's Christian Legal Society.

The Christian Legal Society, Mississippi College School of Law, will host the spring luncheon Mar. 4, 11:30 a.m., at First Church, Jackson. Guest speaker is U. S. District Court Judge Keith Starrett. Cost is \$10; call (601) 925-7105 for information.

The Mississippi Baptist Hospital/Gilfey School of Nursing Alumni recently awarded scholarships to Tabitha Clay of Brandon, MC Advanced Standing; Jeannie Gunn of Jackson, UMC Doctoral Candidate; Maurice Carter of Brandon, USM Masters; Thomas Griffith, Jr. of Grenada, Holmes CC ADN; Amanda Paige Whittington of Mize, MC Baccalaureate; and Robert Summers of Ridgeland, Hinds CC ADN. Shown are Clay, Whittington, and Gunn.

Thirty-five students from 11 Mississippi campuses spent their Christmas holiday in China, teaching indigenous people

**Stepping Stone Church, Port Gibson**, has called Mark Dearman as pastor.

**Wheeler Grove Church, Alcorn Association**, has called David George to be their associate pastor.



George

## REVIVALS

**First Church, McLaurin**, will host a revival March 6-9 with guest speaker Dr. John Temple from Madison and music led by John Hubbell. Services: Sun., 11:00 a.m., lunch to follow with afternoon song service; Mon.-Wed., 6:00 p.m. For more information, contact Shirley Headley at (601) 583-9212.

**Centerville Church, Tyler**, will host a revival March 6-9 with evangelist Don Taylor and music led by Adrian Wood. Services: Sun., 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.; Mon-Wed., 7:00 p.m. Nursery will be available. For more information contact Juanita Firmin at (601) 684-9920.

**March 11-12, 2005**  
\$20 Registration  
\$10 Ministerial discount

## The Greer-Heard Point-Counterpoint Forum: Exploring the Tensions of Faith and Culture



The Greer-Heard Point-Counterpoint Forum: Exploring the Tensions of Faith and Culture, will be held on the NOBTS campus each year. This pilot program is designed to provide a forum in which a well-known evangelical and a non-evangelical scholar discuss critical issues in philosophy, science, religion, and/or culture from their differing perspectives. Response papers on the resurrection by William Lane Craig, Gary Habermas, R. Douglas Geivett, Craig Evans, Ted Peters, and Chuck Quarles.

For conference information and registration: [www.greer-heard.com](http://www.greer-heard.com)  
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 3939 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126, [www.nobts.edu](http://www.nobts.edu)

## MS POSITIONS

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY:** First Baptist Church, Ridgeland is looking for a part-time financial secretary. Approximately 20 hours a week. Computer skills and financial training helpful. Resumes may be sent to First Baptist Church Ridgeland, 302 W. Jackson Street, Ridgeland, MS 39157.

**MINISTER OF MUSIC:** First Baptist Church, Ridgeland is looking for a full-time minister of music. Education and experience preferred. Interested applicants may send their resumes to First Baptist Church Ridgeland, 302 W. Jackson Street, Ridgeland, MS 39157.

**LEMOYNE BLVD. BAPTIST CHURCH** in D'Iberville, Miss., is currently seeking a bi-vocational part-time minister of music. LeMoyne Baptist is a growing church that

enjoys both traditional and contemporary music. Please send resumes to personnel committee, LeMoyne Blvd. Baptist Church, 15005 LeMoyne Blvd., Biloxi, MS 39532. Or fax (228) 392-3352 or email [lemoynebaptistchurch@juno.com](mailto:lemoynebaptistchurch@juno.com), or call (228) 392-3241.

**PART-TIME YOUTH MINISTER:** Pelahatchie Baptist Church is seeking a mature, energetic person to lead our youth to maturity and ministry. Mail resume to Pelahatchie Baptist Church, Attn: search committee, P.O. Box 355, Pelahatchie, MS 39145.

**CANAAN BAPTIST CHURCH, COLUMBUS, MISS.** is prayerfully considering applications for the position of part-time youth director. Please submit resumes to R. Peal, 1332 Cal-Stens Road, Steens, MS

39766 or call (662) 574-0617.

**MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY: FULL-TIME MINISTER OF MUSIC AND EDUCATION.** Please mail resumes to Slayden Baptist Church, Attn: Search Committee, 2534 Hwy 72, Lamar, MS 38642. Or email to [slaydenchurch@bellsouth.net](mailto:slaydenchurch@bellsouth.net). For more information call (662) 252-4559.

**MINISTER OF MUSIC/STUDENT WORKER.** Self motivated, music Bachelor's degree. Young or young at heart. We have a blended service, Power point, keyboard, sax, already used. Congregation in multipurpose worship center. Beginning salary \$25-30,000. Actual youth numbers is small, potential is enormous. Contact pastor, Dr. W. "Frank" Lescallette, Trinity Baptist Church, Vicksburg, Miss., at (601) 636-8121.

**FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH** of Bryant, Arkansas, is prayerfully seeking God's will for a full-time pastor to lead our congregation. We will be accepting resumes until March 31, 2005. Please send resumes to pastor search committee, 604 S Reynolds Road, Bryant, AR 72022.

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**NORRIS BOOKBINDING COMPANY, INC.**, old Bibles rebound. Also, church bulletins and hymnals. For more information call (662) 453-7424 or fax us at (662) 455-6743.

**PRESCHOOL/CHILDREN'S MINISTER POSITION.** Able to develop/manage preschool and children's ministries. Send resume to First Baptist Church, 21 First Street SE, Fort Walton Beach, Florida 32548, c/o preschool/children search committee.

**FOR SALE: SCHULMERICH HAND-BELLS**, like new, rarely used, \$7,000. Contact DaRon Maughon at Church of the Highlands, Ridgeland, Miss., (601) 605-0040.

**FOR SALE: 30 PADDED (SEAT AND BACK) PEWS.** Fifteen feet long, First Baptist Church, Byram, Miss. Call Carl Prewitt at (601) 372-3156.

**HEIDELBERG STAINED GLASS**, Meridian. Design, fabrication, repair. Fax illustrations to (601) 483-7958 or call (800) 368-2705. **STAINED GLASSWORKS, INC.**, serving MS & AL since 1992. Call (800) 605-2970.

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**HOPPER GLASS STUDIO, CUSTOM** church windows, reworking and repair, Columbus/Jackson, (877) 477-1899.

**PEWS FOR SALE:** Colonial style church pews with upholstered seats, 37 years old. Fair condition, \$150.00 each, one at 9', six at 11'9", six at 14'8", two at 19'10" and two at 22" and seventeen at 21'4". Call First Baptist Church of Purvis at (601) 794-8551 for details.

**CHURCH PEW UPHOLSTERY**, free estimates. Davis Upholstery, Quitman, Miss., phone (601) 776-6617.

**FULL-TIME WORSHIP PASTOR** needed. Send resumes to First Baptist Church, attn: Dan Glenn, 100 N. Hickory St., Vicksburg, LA 71373. Or email [worship@fbcvicksburg.com](mailto:worship@fbcvicksburg.com).

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## FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

### Can God Fix This?

Hosea 14: 1-9

By Frances C. Graham

What is your true relationship with your Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ? Do you truly love Him or have you left your first love?

Hosea calls out to his people, "O Israel, return to God." (v.1) "Return" is the term used here for true repentance, which means going back to God, acknowledging sin, being sorry for sin and being restored from sin. Israel had been faithless but Hosea still saw hope for her if she would only turn from her sinful ways.

Hosea tells Israel to take words and ask for forgiveness in praying "Take away all iniquity" and "receive us graciously." (v.2) One should view this as a confession of sin along with praise and thanksgiving which are offered as sacrifice by the

grateful worshiper.

Now as Israel often tried to do, they wanted to look to a foreign power for help. Assyria (called Asshur in the KJV) could not save them nor could Egypt, the source of war horses. Israel considered turning to the work of their hands, the idols, for help. Hosea reminded Israel that they were exposed to danger from all the foreign powers and idols. He recounted only God could provide the mercy necessary for salvation. (v.3)

When God's people turn from their wicked ways and call upon Him, He responds by "healing their apostasy" (v.4). God will change their hearts and rid them of the immorality that brought their ruin. The love that God demonstrates is motivated by His own grace



Graham

rather than by any merit. God freely gives His love as a gift without any hindrances. The anger of the Lord is averted when true repentance is expressed by the sinner.

Verses 5-8 depict the blessings that God will shower upon Israel.

Israel will flourish with vegetation both in beauty and fruitfulness. The lily symbolizes the beauty and purity of Israel while the "roots of Lebanon" implies stability and permanence.

The "branches shall spread" symbolize the tender branches and saplings which spring from the root after Israel's vine is severed. Hosea indicates that the result will be the sprouting of many fresh plants. He emphasizes, as does Jeremiah (Jer. 11:16), that Israel will be bright and fruitful as the olive tree which was seen as a staple in the economy of the ancient East.

Israel (Ephriam) has finally learned her lesson and is ready to renounce idolatry (v.8). As a result

of God's love for Israel, they would bring forth God's fruit as is referenced in John 15:1-11.

God's redeeming love can save all who call upon Him repenting of their sins. He can overlook all the sins committed by Hosea, his wayward wife, and even the nation of Israel when they repent and turn from their wicked ways to follow Him.

God can redeem all of us through the love and joy of the Savior. God will be the final victor. This does not mean that God will save all people regardless of their sins, but He will save all people who choose to follow Him. It may seem that sin rules the world but rest assured that God rules the universe and He always will. God's true redemptive power is seen in the cross (Rom. 5:6-8) and the resurrection (1 Cor. 15:55-57).

Let's look at our relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. One's active service and understanding of the Word is important but our love for God must be the overriding factor. If we, as fellow Christians, turn our

back on God, the One who so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for our sins, then we are committing the greatest sin of all.

The church of Ephesus (Rev. 2:2-4) was told their perseverance and labors for His name's sake were recognized but they had left their first love. Refer also to the writings to the church at Laodicea (Rev. 3:15-16), where God notes He is aware of their works but they are neither hot nor cold but a sickening lukewarm.

Do either of these descriptions fit your situation? Have you left your first love? Is your love for your Lord and Savior what it should be? Or is there a need for you refocus your heart and in turn your love for Jesus. God is waiting to fix our hearts when we are willing to "return" to Him as Hosea pleaded for his people to do. At that point, we can rekindle our first love and demonstrate God's love in our lives.

Graham is a member of Adaton Church, Starkville.

## EXPLORE THE BIBLE

### Jesus Lives Forever

Luke 24:22-36, 50-53

By Neil Gant

Teams often pull victory from the jaws of defeat. Sometimes they pull defeat from the jaws of victory. The followers of Jesus sensed only defeat and tragedy after His death. They lived those days He was in the tomb in hopelessness and confusion. Until they saw Him alive. The tragedy turned into triumph.

#### SEEK ANSWERS, LUKE 24:22-24

The followers of Jesus spent three days in fear, darkness, and grief. They were sad because of the horror of the cross and death of the Lord Jesus. They were no doubt experiencing a deep sense of loss and heartache. Two of those disciples were walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus, a town about seven miles NW of the city. Their conversation concerned the events of the past few days.



Gant

While they were involved in this conversation, Jesus drew near and joined them. They did not know who He was, because of divine and supernatural intervention. He asked them about their conversation and their sadness. Jesus did not ask because he lacked information. He asked so that He could open the door to explain what these men needed to know. Cleopas asked this unknown intruder if He was the only stranger (visitor) in Jerusalem and unaware of the events of the past few days. Jesus gave Cleopas the opportunity to unload his heart — What things? Notice what Cleopas says: First, he described the person in question — Jesus of Nazareth. Not just any Jesus, but a particular man. Cleopas thought this stranger was completely unin-

formed. Second, he described the activity of this Jesus — a prophet mighty in deed and word. How accurate they were in this picture of the Lord Jesus. Third, they pointed out how this person met His end — the chief priests and rulers delivered Him to be condemned to death and crucified Him. Fourth, this man expressed his hope in Jesus. We were hoping He was going to redeem Israel. We were hoping He would deliver Israel from both spiritual and political woes.

This is the third day since that happened. Some of the women went to the tomb and amazed us with their story of the empty tomb and the angels who said He was alive. Certain (Peter and John) found the tomb as the women said, but did not see Him (they had not heard about His appearance to Mary Magdalene). They needed answers and were about to get them from the Lord Himself.

#### EXAMINE EVIDENCE, LUKE 24:25-29

Jesus preached them a sermon. He used as His text the entire Old Testament. He said they were foolish and slow because they did not believe the words of the prophets. He expounded the Scriptures and showed them that the entire Old Testament in some form pointed to His ministry and work. He showed them the necessity of His suffering and death. He told them that He would ascend into glory. They had not paid attention to the truth found in the words of the Scriptures. What a lesson they learned that evening! The very Author of Scripture explained the truth of Scripture to them. The Word of God gives us the hard evidence of the purpose of His coming and the certainty of His resurrection. Let us trust His Word.

#### CONSIDER TESTIMONIES, LUKE 24:30-36

The Lord stayed and broke bread with the two disciples. Their eyes were opened and they recognized Him. He vanished from their sight. Immediately they

noted how His sermon had touched them as they walked together. No one ever spoke like the Lord Jesus. He had opened the Scriptures to them. They left and found the eleven. Their message was plain and clear, "The Lord is risen." Then they told the story. As they were talking, Jesus Himself appeared in their midst. Eyewitness testimony in the New Testament gives powerful evidence of the certainty of His resurrection.

#### RESPOND IN WORSHIP, LUKE 24:50-53

Only one response is adequate with regard to the Risen Lord Jesus. We are to worship Him. The focus of our church gatherings is to worship Him. The focus of our private prayer time is to worship Him. He is to be the center of our lives. He is the risen and reigning King. He changed the lives of the early disciples and ours as well. "Come let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD our maker."

Gant is pastor of Pleasant Grove Church, Gore Springs.

## Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted. Photographs must be submitted with permission.

THE BAPTIST  
*Record*

Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number. Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts

are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used if submitted as a JPEG file via either (a) e-mail, (b) three-and-a-half inch floppy disk, or (c) CD. Photos must be clear, sharp, and well-lit.

All news items are subject to editing,

and all photographs are subject to cropping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape-, building-, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis. Requests to return photographs must be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.



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1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)

If you make a decision for Jesus Christ today, contact a local Baptist church for spiritual guidance. •

## SBC registration open

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Registration is now open for families who wish to enroll their children in the preschool childcare, the children's conference or the youth Centrifuge June 19-22 in conjunction with the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Nashville, Tenn. For all information regarding registration, visit [www.sbc.net](http://www.sbc.net) and click on "2005 SBC Annual Meeting, then Children/Students."

Registration information may also be obtained by writing to SBC Childcare, Bellevue Baptist Church, 7400 Hwy 70S, Nashville, TN 37221.

To assure your child is registered, applications and fees must be submitted promptly. Once the completed forms and registration fee for each child are received, a family ID number will be assigned and a confirmation packet with a family confirmation card, parent handbook, security information and procedures for check-in and check-out will be sent.

The postmark deadline for preschool childcare registration is May 20. Parents desiring to register their children after May 20 may print the required information and bring it to the convention, where they will be registered on-site on a space-available basis.

The SBC children's conference, meanwhile, will be led by the staff and team from Children's Conferences International from Indianapolis, who perform skits, object lessons, stories, songs, crafts, games, juggling and music.

To register, visit [www.sbc.net](http://www.sbc.net) or [www.childrensconferences.com](http://www.childrensconferences.com) and click on Nashville.

Also at the convention this year, students in grades seven through 12 are invited to be part of a Centrifuge-style camp sponsored by Fuge Life-Changing Camps. Centrifuge has provided quality camp experiences for SBC churches since 1979. The theme of the SBC Centrifuge, which begins Monday evening, June 20, is "Honor," focusing on how teens can honor God with their relationships. The Bible study sessions will focus on the life of David, and his relationships with King Saul, Jonathan and Bathsheba. Students will be in groups according to grade, with the breakdown being grades seven through nine and grades 10-12.

Registration may be handled online at [www.lifeway.com/fuge/youth/sbc.asp](http://www.lifeway.com/fuge/youth/sbc.asp), by clicking on "register online," or by calling 1-877-CAMP123. E-mail inquiries can be sent to [fuge@lifeway.com](mailto:fuge@lifeway.com).

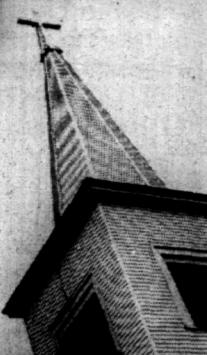
"Our vision is to facilitate biblically based conferences for every age group for our children and teens during the annual meeting," said Jack Wilkerson, vice president for business and finance of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee.

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In 5 years, from 12 in a cafeteria to 1,200 in five weekend services

David Putman, Executive Pastor, Mountain Lake Church, Former leader in NAMB's Church Planting Team... began as a church planter in the mid-80's

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\$25.00

APRIL 21-22, 2005

\$25 covers the cost of the conference and a Thursday evening seafood buffet.  
Lodging & other meals are extra. For more information contact:

1.800.662.8701 / 504.282.4455 ext.3320 Email: [leavellcenter@nabts.edu](mailto:leavellcenter@nabts.edu)

The Leavell Center is located on the campus of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

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Friday, Feb. 25th - 7:00 pm  
Saturday, Feb. 26th - 6:00 pm

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